GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:662
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002
DISPARITY IN PRICING OF CRUDE OIL WITH OPEC
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken up the matter of `Disparity in pricing of Crude Oil` with OPEC;

(b) if so, whether OPEC has agreed to curtail the extra charges on crude oil beingimposed on developing countries particularly on India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have raised this issue at the 14th World Petroleum Congress held in the first week of September, 2002;

(e) if so, whether the Government have sought stable prices in $22-23 per barrel band and mechanism to protect developing countries from extreme fluctuations; and

(f) if so, to what extent suggestions of the Government were accepted?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (c): The matter of disparity in pricing of crude oil by certain OPEC countries was taken up at international forums and with the OPEC member countries. The matter is being pursued with various OPEC countries.

(d) & (e): Yes, Sir.

(f): OPEC member countries have not accepted the suggestion of the Government of India as yet.